

# TREE CLIMBER

**GRADE: 4    STEP PROGRESSION: 2-12**

**FLSA: NON-EXEMPT**

## **CHARACTERISTICS OF CLASS:**

The Tree Climber is an intermediate skilled position responsible for tree maintenance for City facilities, parks, and rights of way. The physical demands of this position are considerable involving pruning, removing, cabling and bracing, inspecting and planting trees. The working conditions can be dangerous with the incumbents using rope and saddle and climbing trees to heights which could exceed 100 feet. The work has standardized practices and procedures and is subject to general supervisory review. The incumbent may also lead the work of other Tree Climbers.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF ALL CITY EMPLOYEES:**

- Learn and demonstrate an understanding of City, department, division and team goals.
- Serve and meet the needs of customers during routine or emergency situations.
- Ability and willingness to work as part of a team, to demonstrate team skills and to perform a fair share of team responsibilities.
- Ability to assess his/her work performance or the work performance of the team.
- Plan and organize his/her work, time and resources, and if applicable that of subordinates.
- Contribute to the development of others and/or the working unit or overall organization.
- Produce desired work outcomes including quality, quantity and timeliness.
- Communicate effectively with peers, supervisors, subordinates and people to whom service is provided.
- Understand and value differences in employees and value input from others.
- Consistently report to work and work assignments prepared and on schedule.
- Consistently display a positive behavior with regard to work, willingly accept constructive criticism and be respectful of others.

## **EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:**

- Inspects on a daily basis all personal equipment including ropes, saddle, and saws, etc.
- Performs pruning in accordance with industry standard, American National Standard A300 (ANSI) and National Arborist Association standards.
- Complies with ANSI Z133.1 for tree care operations.
- Removes dead, dying, or hazardous trees from parks, facility grounds, and rights of way.
- Rigs hazardous trees for removal using ropes, block and tackle and pulleys.

- Uses and maintains a variety of equipment including aerial lift truck, dump truck, chipper, backhoe, chain saws and various hand tools.
- Inspects aerial lift truck prior to operation.
- Ascends trees using rope and saddle to heights which could exceed 100 feet.
- Assists other crews in pruning, chipping, brush and storm damage cleanup.
- Quickly and efficiently cleans up tree debris after storm related events working in all weather conditions.
- Assists with special events as requested.
- Inspects occasionally work of contractors for compliance with the contract.
- Completes work orders.
- Assists other crews as needed, i.e., mowing. Leaf collection, flower installation, and general parks maintenance.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

### **Required Training and Experience:**

Any combination of training and experience equivalent to a minimum completion of the tenth grade and three years experience in the tree care industry. Must have experience climbing using a rope and saddle. Must be a Certified Arborist through the International Society of Arboriculture. Possession of, or ability to obtain a motor vehicle class CDL operator's license as issued by the Maryland Department of Motor Vehicles (or an equivalent license issued by the employee's state of residence) within 30 days of employment.

### **Preferred knowledge, skills and abilities:**

- Considerable knowledge of associated tree care industry standards.
- Considerable knowledge of all hazards associated with tree maintenance and with the use of associated equipment.
- Considerable knowledge of operation procedures for aerial lift.
- Knowledge and understanding of overhead utilities, electrical conductors, and power lines.
- Considerable knowledge of acceptable standards for pruning, cabling and bracing and associated tree maintenance.
- Skill in technical climbing with rope and saddle.
- Ability to identify defects and hazards associated with trees.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationship with coworkers, and City staff, and to communicate when necessary to the general public.
- Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.
- Ability to do extremely strenuous manual work in all weather conditions.

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